

Peace



Press

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The Oxford Citizens for Peace and Justice

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Peace, The Fundamental Election Issue

This mid-term election campaign may be focused on the economy, stupid; and jobs and tax cuts may be the hot campaign issues. But our troubled economy and global environment are far better served by our giving some attention to our obscene military budget, which robs us of the national resources we need to spur the economy and meet our human needs.

Large numbers of Americans want to see a better course of action in U.S. foreign policy in general and in the Middle East in particular—action that better reflects America’s professed morals and values.

Getting closer to the mid-term elections, the U.S. occupation of Iraq, the war in Afghanistan, the fate of America’s nuclear arsenal, and runaway military spending must be at the forefront of the electoral debate. But it will only be a top priority leading up to Congressional elections if we make it so.

Help elect more progressives to Congress (and to statehouses). Help check the influence of military contractors and their friends on the far Right who will be spending millions of dollars in this election season to further their selfish interests over the common good.

Let your representatives and senators know how you feel about these issues. Communicate your views often by calling, writing, or e-mailing, or better yet, visiting their offices. And when election time rolls around, vote your views. True and

lasting change does not come easy. Engaged citizens need to keep speaking out and keep pushing. Issue after issue. Vote after vote.

Try this toll-free number for the Capitol Switchboard where you can be connected to your reps to let them know what you think—1-866-220-0044. And thanks for all you do for sane foreign and military policies—and for peace. —LMK

Nov. 13—Bread Not Bombs Dinner

Mark your calendars: This year our annual celebratory (and fundraising) dinner will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2010. How’s that for a little change of pace?

Twenty-sixth Annual BREAD NOT BOMBS DINNER

To Benefit the Work of the
Oxford Citizens for Peace & Justice
Saturday, November 13, 2010, 5:00-8:00 PM
Undercroft, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
25 East Walnut Street, Oxford
modest meal of marvelous savoriness
live music: artists with both commitment and talent
comradeship with seekers after peace and justice
information about OCPJ programs

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE WORK OF OCPJ
Waging peace in our community for over 30 years

The Environmental Footprint of War and U.S. Empire

[Excerpts from a presentation by Linda Musmeci Kimball at the Green Screen film screening of "Scarred Lands and Wounded Lives: The Environmental Footprint of War" on 8 September 2010 at the Oxford Community Arts Center.]

This film opens with the statement: "The environment is war's silent casualty." That may seem obvious to us: the greater destructive power of modern weaponry and other technologies of warfare have an enormous environmental footprint. War pollutes land, air, and water, destroys biodiversity, drains natural resources, and prevents environmental restoration. It has been said that the primary cause of environmental destruction in the 20th century has been war itself and that the ecological history of war in the 20th century has yet to be written. Even in the 45 years of the Cold War—an interim of no official war declarations—there were 125 regional wars in which 40 million people were killed.

But what this film reminds us of are some of the ways that war preparations worldwide are an assault on the global environment and the human community.

The drive for world or regional leadership, political and economic dominance, and empire-building has created an enormous military machine worldwide that has spread toxins across the globe. And the U.S. military is the biggest offender of them all—the Superpower is the Superpolluter. In fact, the World Watch Institute has documented in its annual *State of the World* publication that the U.S. military-industrial complex is the single largest polluter on Earth.

The U.S. military is America's biggest and only major jobs program, with over 1.4 million Americans now on active military duty, another 833,000 in the reserves (many, full-time), and another 1.6 million Americans working in companies that supply the military with everything from weapons to utensils (not including all the foreign contractors employing non-U.S. citizens).

For many years the U.S. military has been gobbling up large swaths of the planet and huge amounts of just about everything on or in it. The U.S. Defense Department has 30 million acres of U.S. landholdings with the footprint of a giant abroad; e.g., the DoD controls 20% of the Japanese island of Okinawa and owns 25% of Guam. The total number of U.S. overseas bases is at least 850. The DoD's "real property portfolio" consists of 3,731 bases, installations, and outposts, with over 20% of these sites located on more than 711,000 acres outside the U.S. and its territories. A bloated organization bent on setting up franchises across the globe, the Pentagon acknowledges 39 nations with at least one U.S. base, stations personnel in over 140 countries around the world, and boasts a physical plant of at least 571,900 facilities. (466,599 located in the U.S. or its territories. In fact, the DoD owns or leases more than 75% of all federal buildings in the U.S.)

Let me add a little more context to the "footprints" covered in this compelling film:

- The U.S. exempts its military from most of its

environmental laws, making the Pentagon a global environmental hazard. (The Defense Department has recently refused to comply with orders or sign contracts to clean up 11 hazardous waste sites and has asked the White House and Justice Dept. to intervene on its behalf.)

- The Pentagon generates nearly a ton of toxic pollution every minute—500,000 tons of toxics annually. The DoD is now cleaning up 29,500 currently or formerly contaminated sites in every state and territory, most of which have already contaminated groundwater sources of drinking water. The cost to clean up toxic munitions contamination and unexploded ordnance at active and former military installations around the country may reach \$300 billion.

- 40,000 underground chemical and fuel storage tanks on U.S. military bases threaten much of the nation's water supplies, including the former Nike missile base on Taylor Rd. in Oxford. (Last year, the Environmental Working Group publicly called for government action to protect people and the nation's food and water supplies from dangerous levels of the rocket fuel ingredient perchlorate. The CDC has found perchlorate in 100% of the people they have tested. The EWG says that 20 to 40 million Americans are likely exposed to the chemical. Perchlorate is the fuel additive that has seeped into the ground and water in dozens of states, usually from old military bases or NASA sites.



- Nuclear weapons development at sites such as Hanford, WA, Rocky Flats, CO, Fernald, OH, Savannah River Plant, SC, the Nevada Test Site, and the more than 400 sites used in support of nuclear weapons development has left a poisonous legacy. (It might surprise you to know that most of the radioactive fallout from the atmospheric tests that were conducted in the '40s, '50s, and early '60s is still circling the globe in the atmosphere, slowly descending still.)

- Every year, the U.S. military uses enough energy to run all U.S. mass transit for 22 years.

- An aircraft carrier uses 150,000 gallons of fuel per day.

- A fighter jet consumes as much fuel per hour as the average U.S. motorist uses in two years.

And the record is even worse at U.S. overseas military bases, which have created environmental havoc in many developing regions ill-equipped to respond to such disasters. For example:

- More than 200 tons of hazardous military waste has been dumped in the Philippines.
- Artillery tests and depleted uranium (DU) weapons tests on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques have killed and injured civilians there and violates treaties declaring Latin America a nuclear-free zone.
- More than 120,000 pieces of unexploded ordnance and buried chemical warfare agents have been left in the Panama Canal Zone.
- As the world's biggest arms-trade exporter, the U.S. continues to supply weapons and training to militaries in developing countries, ensuring a climate of repression that allows corporate exploitation of people and the environment.
- The U.S. refuses to take responsibility for the landmines it has left in many developing countries, reducing arable land and bio-diversity (and posing an ongoing deadly threat).
- The U.S. commitment to nuclear weapons and nuclear energy has produced more than a billion pounds of depleted uranium waste. (During the first Gulf War in 1991 alone, U.S. forces fired 630,000 DU rounds, leaving enough DU in Kuwait and Iraq to cause tens of thousands of deaths. And the strategy of deliberate bombing of water and sewage plants resulted in water-borne diseases—not to mention the severe effects of the oil well fires.)

The Pentagon's assault on the environment promotes undemocratic politics, disrupts or destroys social service and economic systems (think Iraq's once-envied public health care system), prevents environmental recovery, deters development, promotes legal double standards, and undermines bio-diversity.

Global spending for military purposes costs about \$2 million PER MINUTE—resources that could be better used to protect the planet and its inhabitants. Global military expenditures have risen by 45% over the past decade to \$1.46 trillion. Think about what that means:

- Two days worth of military spending could halt the spread of deserts.
- Four days' worth could create a five-year plan to protect remaining tropical forests.
- Five minutes' worth could protect endangered species and combat ocean pollution for one year.

Let's recall—Fifty-five years ago President Eisenhower warned that: "The problem in defense is how far you can go without destroying from within what you are trying to defend from without." I would add that the problem in defense has not become one of *defending* our country, our people, our "national interests," but one of *offensive* empire-building. Our Dept. of Defense, driven by notions of world leadership and dominance, has morphed into a Dept. of *Offense*. A New World and Environmental Order is called for, one in which global security, including our own, is defined in terms other than military throw-weight (and, I might add, other than growth of our GNP).

A Historic Time for Arms Control

The United States is finally taking serious steps to reduce the risks posed by nuclear weapons and weapon-usable material. U.S. nuclear weapons policy underwent a welcome shift earlier this year when the Obama administration released its Nuclear Posture Review that calls for positive policy changes. The U.S. and Russia signed the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START), which will reduce each country's deployed strategic (long-range) nuclear weapons to 1,550. And President Obama hosted a world summit aimed at securing vulnerable fissile material that can be used to make nuclear weapons.

These are the most far-reaching changes to our agenda for reducing the nuclear threat since the end of the Cold War, and we can share in the credit. The analysis and work of many arms control NGOs and activists helped shape the administration's internal debate about policy as well as its new agenda.

The challenge in the work for nuclear disarmament, as always, is one of transforming the public's misperceptions about the utility and value of nuclear weapons. Aside from nuclear warheads' unique destructive power—which is no small matter!—it is important that we communicate the fact that nuclear weapons are a security liability: they do not protect us from terrorist attacks and they undercut our ability to prevent other countries from acquiring their own weapons.



But then, it's difficult to get the attention of the public and our policymakers what with the current political climate, an economy that is in the dumps (people are hurting), and an intense mid-term election season. Yet, these are all equally important struggles, and why a series of moves by a coalition of NGOs and local activists have sought to influence the blueprint for a new direction in U.S. nuclear policy and the Obama administration's Nuclear Posture Review (e.g., involvement in '08 presidential debates, national party conventions, and meetings and other communications with key

administration officials)

These efforts pushed hard to get the Obama administration to restrict the role of U.S. nuclear weapons to deterrence against nuclear attack by other nations. The Nuclear Posture Review, however, did not go that far: it states that deterrence remains the “fundamental” but not the only role of U.S. nuclear weapons. The Review *did* reflect the arms control community’s recommendation that the United States pledge not to use nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear country in compliance with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, as well as our recommendation against building new nuclear weapons—both, a sharp departure from Bush policies.

These steps by the administration have set us on the path toward reducing the global threat posed by nuclear weapons, but we must ensure the nation stays on this path. We must work to push the administration to bring U.S. policy further in line with the reality of a world where nuclear weapons create grave risks to our security and our survival.

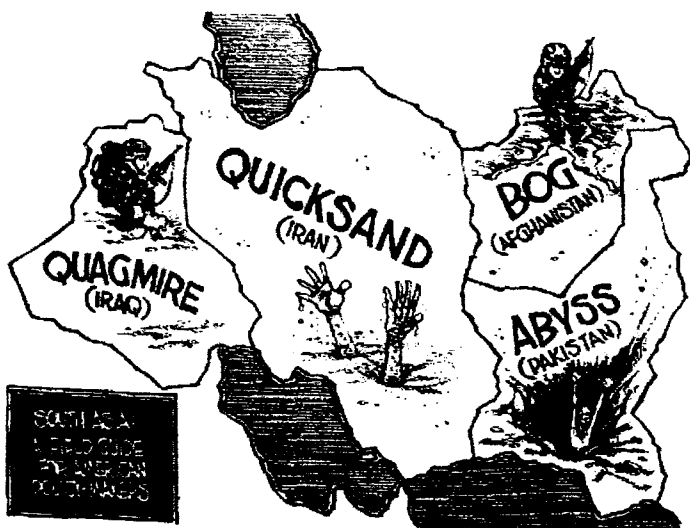
LMK

It is time to turn our backs on the unilateral search for security, in which we seek shelter behind walls. Instead, we must persist in the quest for united action to counter both global warming and a weaponized world....Some of the needed legal instruments are already at hand such as the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, the Convention on Climate Change, the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaties, and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. As concerned citizens, we urge all governments to commit to these goals that constitute steps on the way to replacement of war by law.

—Excerpt, “The Dispossessed” Statement, 7 Dec.

2001

Signed by 100 Nobel Laureates



“Operation Enduring Occupation”

In his August 31 Oval Office speech, President Obama marked the withdrawal of most U.S. combat forces from Iraq, noting the fulfillment of a key pledge of his presidential campaign. So, the U.S. “combat mission in Iraq is over”? Not as long as the U.S. occupation of Iraq continues.

As the editors of *The Nation* (9-20-10) noted: “The fact is that the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq, built on Bush’s false claims about the threat of weapons of mass destruction, was one of the worst foreign policy disasters in decades. At least 100,000 Iraqis have died, and many thousands more may perish if, as seems likely, Iraq’s bitterly divided body politic settles its differences with guns and bombs over the next five or ten years. Millions of Iraqi children have been severely traumatized. By invading Iraq, the United States alienated its friends, weakened its alliances, emboldened its adversaries, blackened its reputation, squandered a trillion dollars, suffered tens of thousands of dead and wounded, utterly failed to spread democracy and freedom in the region, indirectly aided the cause of extremist Islam, vastly strengthened Iran’s strategic position in the Middle East, and devastated a nation by shattering its economy, its state institutions and its social fabric so badly that it will take at least two generations to repair.”

Americans need to remember the disastrous consequences of this debacle. The “surge” of additional 30,000 combat forces in 2007 only served to prolong the war by three more bloody, combat-filled years. The surge did not calm the crisis: the decline in violence came because Sunni tribal leaders banded together to fight Al Qaeda and other extremists, and because Iran made a strategic decision to rein in its Shiite militia allies. None of the issues that brought about civil war in Iraq have been resolved. The divisions are so deep that the politics in Iraq may pull the country apart again. And that will create great pressure on Obama, coming especially from the DoD and our military, to slow or reverse the phased withdrawal.

Fifty thousand U.S. troops—and even more U.S.-paid mercenaries—will continue to occupy Iraq. And then there’s the expanding U.S. combat mission in Afghanistan. Despite Obama’s wise recognition that “open-ended wars” are not in the U.S. interest, endless wars rage on.

Without an end to wars of occupation and a renewed commitment to our own people’s recovery at home, this country will remain mortgaged to the terrible human, physical, and economic costs of Iraq—and Afghanistan.

—LMK

U.S. interests include protecting the nation and our allies from attack or coercion, promoting international security to reduce conflict and foster economic growth, and securing the global commons and with them access to world markets and resources.

—Excerpted from the “2008 U.S. National Defense Strategy”

Findings of the Afghanistan Study Group Report

A growing consensus on the counterinsurgency war in Afghanistan is building for U.S. military disengagement combined with a new diplomatic effort aimed at reconciliation and regional stability. The latest and perhaps most important example of this growing consensus is the recently released report of the Afghanistan Study Group—a gathering of former government officials, well-known academics, and foreign policy experts assembled by the New America Foundation.

While the Report substantiates in cogent detail its critique of current U.S. policy, here are a few major highlights:

- “Al Qaeda is no longer a significant presence in Afghanistan, and there are only some 400 hard-core Al Qaeda members remaining in the entire Afghanistan/Pakistan theater, most of them hiding in Pakistan’s northwest provinces.”
- There are Al Qaeda sympathizers in many locations throughout the world, including in Britain and the U.S., and defeating the Taliban in Afghanistan will have little effect on Al Qaeda’s threat to the U.S.
- The threat from Al Qaeda would be better met via specific counter-terrorism measures, a reduced U.S. military footprint in the Islamic world, and diplomatic efforts to undermine international support for militant extremism.
- The war is not a conflict between the Karzai government and an insurgent Taliban movement allied with international terrorists. In fact, the conflict is a multifaceted civil war among various Afghan ethnic groups and regions.
- The Taliban is not a unified movement but an umbrella label applied to many armed groups and individuals, many of whom do not share the fundamentalist ideology of the most prominent Taliban leaders.
- The conflict has also come to include resistance to foreign military occupation, thus transforming part of the conflict into a war against the United States.
- Given the tenuous links between the Taliban and Al

Qaeda, and the fact that Al Qaeda operates in a number of countries around the world, waging a lengthy counterinsurgency war “may well do more to aid Taliban recruiting than to dismantle the group, help spread conflict further into Pakistan, unify radical groups that might otherwise be quarreling among themselves, threaten the long-term health of the U.S. economy, and prevent the U.S. government from turning its full attention to other pressing problems.”

The Report proposes as key to stability in Afghanistan—not to shore up the Karzai government but to resolve the distribution of power among various factions and between the central government and the provinces; in essence, the kind of power-sharing and political inclusion that downsizes and eventually ends U.S. military operations and that engages regional and global stakeholders in diplomacy designed to guarantee Afghan neutrality and foster stability. The Report argues that negotiated resolution of these conflicts will reduce the influence of extremists more readily than will military action.

I believe we were right to strike at Al Qaeda immediately after 9/11. And I think most Americans believed that was the right thing to do. BUT it was wrong to invade and occupy the country. It showed an acute lack of understanding of history, and a lack of understanding of the people of Afghanistan. At this point, Afghanistan has a kleptocracy. There’s no remote possibility that it could sustain anything like a democratic system right now. And we have assured that by using U.S. tax dollars to help prop up a bunch of crooks.

—Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH), 20 Sept. 2010

SPJ in Peru over Spring Break ‘10

[Assisted by a grant from the Bloom Peace Education Fund, SPJ took their Spring Break in Peru investigating human trafficking, and file this report on their experience.]

A group of ten students, the Students for Peace & Justice from Miami University, spent their Spring Break (in March) in the country of Peru. Our focal point of investigation was human trafficking, in both labor trafficking and sexual exploitation. The areas we traveled included the cities of Lima, Huaraz, Vicos, Cuzco, and the surrounding mountainous regions. Through conversations with both social activist groups and with children who had been enslaved and trafficked, we had a first-hand perspective and an incredible opportunity to learn from those who live human trafficking as part of

their daily reality. Our hope was not only to gain this knowledge in Peru but also to bring the message home and make a local impact. We created an event as part of Diversity Week at M.U. that we called “Globalization Gone Wild”—a week of educational events on our subject of study, human trafficking. Student presentations conveyed what we experienced in Peru. In addition, Christina Conrad, who works for the Salvation Army in Columbus in the field of human trafficking, presented information about the human trafficking that occurs right here in the state of Ohio. We hope we helped people realize that this is a very local issue as well. Whereas most people may believe that modern day slavery exists only in foreign countries, what we must acknowledge is that there are hundreds of thousands of trafficking victims being exploited in our country as well.



Our goal is to continue the work of Students for Peace & Justice in the years to come and to form bonds among people to fight for justice in our world today. We thank the Oxford Citizens for Peace & Justice for their support in our pursuits. —MB

Pondering a New Talawanda Mascot

It is the position of this Board that the name “Braves” generates a positive image, and is not the same as other mascot names such as Redskins, Mohawks, Indians, or Warriors. The Board does not feel that the Braves mascot is offensive. We do not feel that the creators of the Talawanda School District intended to offend, discriminate, or diminish (in any way) any members of this community or any people of any race anywhere. The Board believes that the majority of citizens in the Talawanda School District agree that the Braves mascot is not offensive, and they favor the continued use of the

current mascot. . . . It is the position of the Board that the current mascot will remain and the Board will not establish an additional task force to study the issue further.

—Excerpt from the published Statement by the Talawanda Board of Education on the THS Mascot, May, 17, 2010

Who should decide what is demeaning and racist? Clearly, the affected party determines what is offensive. Unaffected members of society should not dictate how the affected party should feel. Moreover, efforts to retire Indian mascots, logos, and nicknames should not be met with ugly alumni and student backlashes that label complainants as troublemakers, activist, militant, gadflies, or practitioners of politically correctness. Therefore, educators who advocate and affirm cultural diversity must be ready for a challenge. Only a concerted effort to debunk Hollywood’s mythology can alter the distorted image of the American Indian people for the better.

Educators should examine the biases and stereotypes their students hold. These stereotypes, caused by ignorance, hard times, and folk wisdom socialization, can be countered by accurate and culturally responsive information. Education can become a tool for liberation from bigotry—rather than a facilitator of racism. . . . Therefore, my professional challenge is to educators. As long as such mascots remain within the arena of school activities, both Indian and non-Indian children are learning to tolerate racism in schools. By tolerating the use of demeaning stereotypes in our public schools, we further desensitize entire generations of children. . . . Sport teams with Indian mascots, logos, and nicknames teach them that it is acceptable to demean a race or group of people through American sports culture.

—Excerpt from “Playing Indian at Halftime: The Controversy over American Indian Mascots, Logos, and Nicknames in School-Related Events” by Cornel D. Pewewardy, Professor of Teaching and Leadership at University of Kansas in Lawrence

IT IS NOT 1956! IT IS 2010! I do not disagree that the original intent was honorable and adopted with respect for the Native American culture. We have learned since that time. Up until 1954 we believed “separate but equal” was the best course for educating our children in separate schools! We have learned since that time. There was a time when we honestly believed that “children should be seen and not heard.” We have learned since that time. There was a time when children with disabilities were automatically placed in institutions. We have learned since that time. There was a time when

women were not permitted to vote, to work outside the home, to advance in education, to cultivate young minds in the classroom when they were pregnant, or lead schools, churches, or businesses. We have learned since that time. There was a time

I GUESS OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS DECIDED TO STOP LEARNING.

—E-mail message from a dismayed member of the Coalition for a New Talawanda Mascot, 19 May 2010



PCP Index

- 151** Number of countries that have ratified the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, as of 19 March 2010 (The U.S. is not among them.)
- 188** Number of countries that have joined by signature the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty
- 5** Number of Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone treaties in force, as of 19 March 2010
- \$650 million** Amount that the nuclear power industry has spent over the past decade on lobbying and political contributions, \$100 million over the past year alone
- 19,828** Number of terrorist incidents (involving 86,568 casualties) worldwide, between 1968 and 2004, according to the RAND Corp. and the Oklahoma City National Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism
- 12%** Percentage of Afghan police units that the U.S. military believes are capable of operating without assistance, as of Aug. 2010
- 1 in 10** Chance that a new Afghan police recruit knows how to read
- \$2.2 trillion** Estimated cost of the environmental damage caused each year by the world's 3,000 largest companies

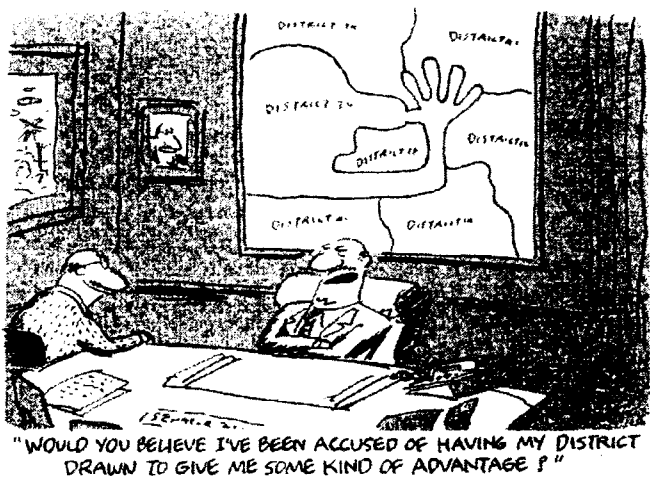
- 1,400,000** Average number of liters of bottled water delivered to U.S. troops in Iraq each day
- 16 million** Estimated amount of oil, in barrels, used to make the bottled-water containers sold in the U.S. in 2008
- 383,524** Number of immigrants detained in 2009 by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the agency responsible for enforcing immigration laws
- 71%** Percentage of all political contributions made in 2009 by the ten largest U.S. hedge fund firms that went to Democrats
- \$1.9 billion** Minimum value of all stocks currently held by life- and health-insurance firms in U.S. fast-food companies
- \$22.61** Amount the minimum (hourly) wage would be worth if the minimum wage had risen at the same pace as CEO pay (since 1990)
- \$35 million** Annual amount poured into hundreds of college campuses by right-wing conservative groups to pay for right-wing speakers, underwrite scores of student papers, provide free leadership training, etc.

[Data compiled by Oxford Citizens for Peace & Justice from government and independent sources, studies, and polls]

Bits & Peaces

A mixed bag of some bitter bits and pithy peaces:

- **The U.S. has more than 10,000 nuclear warheads** in its arsenal. This includes 5,000 that are ready to use and more than 4,000 in reserve. That is the destructive equivalent of 110,000 bombs of the type dropped on Hiroshima. Most of these nuclear warheads will last and be “reliable” for at least 100 years. Closer to home, the Portsmouth (OH) Gaseous Diffusion Plant, already one of the most polluted areas in the country, may well be being readied to become part of the U.S. nuclear expansion program. The site is being used as a storage site for radioactive waste. Plans call for expanding this program to bring in nuclear waste “temporarily” from across the country and the world. The other real possibility is even more dangerous: the Dept. of Energy has leased the site to a private company (USEC) to create giant centrifuges. Their purpose would be reprocessing



highly radioactive spent fuel rods to salvage unused plutonium and uranium still in the rods. Contact the Southern Ohio Neighbors Group (SONG) at 740-289-2549 or visit www.ohioneighbors.org.

• **Great news related to countering the influence of military recruiters in our public schools**—Toledo (OH) has experienced a great victory. The military entrance test, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)—administered and provided free in many of the nation’s public high schools by the U.S. military, essentially to determine students’ desirability as military recruits—has been banned in Toledo Public Schools. This test is not only used to score students according to military standards, but also to provide military recruiting agencies with the students’ personal contact information. The students (and their parents) never have a clue that it is a military exam. But the schools can “opt-out,” and Toledo Public Schools have! AND, as of April 13, 2010, by a legislative act in the state of Maryland, all public schools in Maryland are mandated to choose “Option 8”—rather than, by default, sending all scores and information to the military, all Maryland public schools must choose NOT to send students’s personal contact information to the military. [OCPJ has learned through years of counter-recruitment efforts in the Talawanda public schools that the ASVAB test is not used or given in the Talawanda school district.] A database at www.philly.com/inquirer/multimedia/56249194.html shows how many schools gave the ASVAB and tells how many students took the test, which schools make the test mandatory (even though it is a voluntary test), and whether the results are given to the military.

• **The Coalition of Immokalee Worders** is asking Publix Super Markets in Florida to pay tomato pickers one penny more for every pound of tomatoes they pick and to sign on to a code of conduct that would prevent

the supermarket chain from buying tomatoes from growers who do not meet decent working conditions. More than 1,000 farmworkers and fair food activists rallied in Lakeland, Florida, in April, wrapping up a three-day march designed to put pressure on Publix. A few messages on their signs read: “Justice for Farmworkers,” “End the Poverty,” and “Publix: A Penny for Your Thoughts ‘Cause We Don’t Know What You’re Thinking.”

• **American prisons keep Jim Crow racism alive**—Roughly 2.4 million people are behind bars in the U.S. If you include those bound by probation or parole, the number increases to almost 8 million. Just 40 years ago, fewer than 350,000 people were incarcerated in this country. The prison system consumes more than \$212 billion a year and employs 2.4 million people. There are more than 1800 prisons across the country, not counting local jails, juvenile lockups, and immigration detention centers.

If many of the tea party people, as I suspect, actually despise not big government but ‘liberal’ government, especially one that is led by a black man, then there is false comfort in the claim that this resurgent right-wing movement is largely libertarian. For it is conceivable that a segment of this constituency might readily abandon its surface libertarianism and march behind an ultra-nationalist leader who promises to restore America’s mythic honor.

—Matthew Rothschild, Editor, *The Progressive*



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2008 / 2009 / 2010

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OCPJ MEMBERSHIP, November 1, 2010 – October 31, 2011

ALL OCPJ MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE OCT. 31, 2010. Please renew (or join) now for the '10-'11 FY.
 Membership dues support the Peace Center and enable efforts to further peace & justice.

Choose a membership: ___\$40.00 Household ___\$25.00 Individual ___\$5.00 Student/Limited Income
 ___\$75.00 Sustaining ___\$100.00 Patron ___\$_____ Name your own

Make check payable to: OCPJ & return with this form to: The Peace Center, 19 ½ E. Walnut St., Oxford OH 45056
 Contributions to the Bloom Peace Education Fund are appreciated at anytime & may be included in the same check.

Your involvement increases OCPJ's effectiveness:

- Take part in action/education efforts – circle issue(s) that interest you the most:
 Economic Justice; Civil Liberties; Just Peace; Environmental Sustainability; Other _____
- Volunteer in the Peace Center <513-523-6555>
- Post and/or read comments and items of interest on the OCPJ listserv
- Help with short term projects (i.e., Bread not Bombs dinner, yard sale, special events, fund raising)
- Attend Board meetings (open to all, first Saturday morning of month, at Peace Center)
- Provide moral and financial support

NAME(s) _____ DATE _____
 (if family membership, list all)

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL(s) _____
 (list several if helpful in reaching all members of your household – communication is increasingly online)

Oxford Citizens
for Peace & Justice
19 1/2 East Walnut St.
Oxford, OH 45056

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- Post and/or read comments and items of interest on the OCPJ listserv
- Serve on the website committee <www.OCPJOhio.org>
- Help with short term projects (i.e., Bread not Bombs dinner, yard sale, special events, fund-raising)
- Attend Board meetings (open to all, first Saturday morning of month, at Peace Center)
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NAME(s) _____ DATE _____
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COMMENT _____